

levels. Specifically, the money will be spent on curriculum development, student training, outreach and recruiting efforts, and establishing a corrosion testing and teaching laboratory.

The direct annual costs of corrosion for the Department of Defense are estimated to be more than \$20 billion. Preventing or slowing the forces of corrosion could result in enormous cost savings for not only the Department of Defense, but the government as a whole. Additionally, the debilitating effects of corrosion have been documented to have a significant impact on readiness and in-theater operability. A key factor in combating corrosion is the availability of an educated workforce that can integrate corrosion considerations at the earliest stages of the acquisition process. This project will develop appropriate curriculum that will result in a pipeline of qualified corrosion engineers.

Requesting Member: Rep. Ralph Regula (OH-16).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation—Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Defense Metals Technology Center.

Address of Requesting Entity: c/o Stark State College 6200 Frank Ave, NW North Canton, OH 44720.

Description of Request: To provide an earmark for \$3,000,000 to fund an industry-based consortium to serve the needs of the Department of Defense by facilitating research and development of innovative technology and products for the defense materials and manufacturing industry. Specifically, the money will be used for staffing, strategic metals research and development, technology insertion, industrial base risk analysis, local academic research grants, and cooperative educational work programs.

The Center will serve the current industry needs, capture the individual successes of each service, manage the needs of each service, and look broadly to the expansion of the strategic metals industrial base to serve both the military and commercial markets.

Requesting Member: Rep. Ralph Regula (OH-16).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation—Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Honeywell International.

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Constitution Ave, NW Suite 500 West Washington, DC 20001.

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$800,000 to fund complete research, development, testing and evaluation of a redesigned Accessory Gear Box (AGB) for the CH-47F Chinook helicopter. The redesigned AGB will give the operator and maintainer of the CH-47F Chinook fleet a 200 percent improvement in AGB reliability, which is critical to mission readiness. The redesigned AGB will increase reliability, durability, and safety. In addition to the Army's CH-47F, the redesigned AGB will also be compatible with Special Operations MH-47s, the Air Force Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR-X) aircraft, and our allies' CH-47 helicopter fleets.

Requesting Member: Rep. Ralph Regula (OH-16).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation—Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bosch RexRoth Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1700 Old Mansfield Road Wooster, OH 44691.

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$800,000 to address the needs of the U.S. military's tactical wheeled fleets to significantly reduce fuel consumption and improve vehicle performance and mobility. Specifically, the money will be spent 60 percent on salaries and labor, 20 percent on materials, and 20 percent on hybrid system and vehicle testing.

This research and development will produce advanced Hydraulic Hybrid Vehicle technology that will improve fuel economy by up to 60 percent for the tactical wheeled fleet, reduce the required logistics support footprint, and reduce maintenance and replacement costs due to a reduction in brake wear. The benefits to the U.S. military are many, including supporting the American warfighter, conserving energy, improving cost-effectiveness, and reducing the Department of Defense's dependence on fossil fuels and foreign oil.

DR. ED YOUNG

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Jesus told the well-known parable of a shepherd who owned 100 sheep, Luke 15:3-7. When the shepherd discovered that one of his sheep was missing, he left the 99 secure and went back to find the lost one. The point is that every sheep is important. "The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish", 2 Peter 3:9. Today, I am proud to honor long time shepherd, Dr. Ed Young, and his ministry as he celebrates 30 years with Second Baptist Church in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Young became the pastor of Second Baptist Church in 1978 and continues to minister today. Under Dr. Young's leadership in 1979, Second Baptist started its weekly broadcast of the church's worship services on local television station, Channel 39. The purpose of the weekly broadcast was to create interest in local residents and minister inside and outside of the church network.

Dr. Young was elected President of The Southern Baptist Convention in both 1992 and 1993. He has also authored a number of books, including *The Winning Walk: Outfitting for the Christian Adventure*, *The 10 Commandments of Parenting*, and *Total Heart Health*.

Dr. Young is host of the broadcast radio show, *The Winning Walk*, named after his first book. The *Winning Walk* television broadcast has also emerged. Both programs and the Internet outreach have produced national and international exposure.

Since his start, Second Baptist has grown from 2,000 members to more than 48,000 members in five different campuses. Dr. Young and Second Baptist's ministry has not only spread throughout Houston, but has reached people worldwide.

Dr. Ed Young was born on August 11, 1936 in Laurel Mississippi. He was inspired by his pastor's wife, Mrs. Gates, who led him to faith at the age of 12.

Dr. Young attended University of Alabama for half a semester before leaving. After being

challenged about his faith by a dorm-mate at the University, Dr. Young decided to seek out God's purpose in his life. He transferred to Christian University, Mississippi College, where he continued his education and prepared himself for his future ministry. He later attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina and remained in the area, where he got his first pastoral experience. After ministering in North and South Carolina for a while, he and his wife, Jo Beth, moved to Houston, Texas.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I want to congratulate my long time friend Dr. Ed Young for his 30 years at Second Baptist Church and honor his ministries that have touched numbers of people worldwide.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF FRED SHELDON,
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL
RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Fred Sheldon as he becomes the new President of the National Rural Water Association. Fred is to be commended for his dedication to keeping our water and environment clean and healthy.

Fred has served on the Executive Board of National Rural Water for 8 years. His commitment to serve America's communities has included several terms as Board President and Vice President of the association. He was also instrumental in the establishment of Evergreen Rural Water of Washington in 1994.

As a professional in the field, Fred is dedicated to helping ensure a safe drinking water supply for all of us to use and enjoy. I am sure that National Rural Water will be in excellent hands for the duration of Mr. Sheldon's 2-year tenure.

Madame Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Fred for his excellent work stewarding our natural resources and in congratulating him as he starts his new position as President of the National Rural Water Association.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EXTENDING
FOSTER CARE SERVICES
THROUGH AGE 21

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, the House and the Senate recently approved an important bill to make significant reforms to our child welfare system, including provisions to address the serious and urgent need to provide vital support to foster youth during their transition to independent adulthood. One provision of the bill in particular allows states to voluntarily extend foster care to age 21 from its current limit of 18 years of age. The President is expected to sign H.R.

6893, The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, into law shortly. I am proud to have voted for this bill, sponsored by my good friend Rep. JIM McDERMOTT, and I look forward to its implementation and the benefits it will bring to young people struggling to overcome their difficult circumstances.

Recent research indicates that across the Nation more than 24,000 youth "age-out" of foster care each year. This figure represents an increase of 41 percent since 1998 in the number of young people who leave foster care without having found a permanent connection to a family or stable adult.

Thus, youth who turn 18 and are discharged from the system find themselves on their own, without the support that most adolescents rely upon as they transition from childhood to independent adulthood. Without that support, former foster youth are known to struggle. One in four will be incarcerated within a year of leaving the child welfare system. One in five will experience homelessness in that same year. Rates of mental health diagnoses are higher than in the general population, yet access to treatment and counseling is sporadic. Additionally, these youth have extremely low rates of educational attainment and thus are frequently unable to secure and sustain employment sufficient to meet their basic needs.

The same research that documents these overwhelming challenges, however, also shows the benefits of extending foster care to age 21. A large, ongoing, multi-State study conducted by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, indicates that when youth are allowed to remain in care beyond their 18th birthday, they fare significantly better than youth who cannot. Some States voluntarily extend the option to young adults who have been unable to secure a permanent connection, and when Chapin Hall compares their later life circumstances to those of youth who were turned out at 18, found that they achieved significantly higher levels of education, earned higher wages, waited longer to become pregnant and bear children, and they took increased advantage of available services.

The study's authors state clearly that their findings indicate that extending foster care services can support youth in developing into healthy, educated, productive, and independent citizens. By giving all States the option of continuing foster care services to age 21, the legislation Congress recently approved would allow States to continue vital support for their disconnected adolescent foster youth during a crucial life transition, increasing the likelihood that these youth will experience better ultimate outcomes.

As a long-time member and now chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, I have dedicated many years to the effort of improving the lives of children in foster care and have had the opportunity to work with many different individuals and organizations along the way. Today I wanted to highlight one group in particular for its efforts as it relates directly to the bill we just approved.

The John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes has played an invaluable role in identifying potential policy solutions to the documented difficulties of former foster youth. Under the leadership of California State Senator John Burton (retired), the foundation plays a critical role at the State and national levels

by bringing legislative attention to the needs of some of the Nation's most vulnerable young people. The foundation sponsors and advocates for legislation aimed at providing necessary ongoing support to youth who, by definition, the government has taken on the responsibility of parenting.

Through their advocacy to members of Congress and effective efforts to organize stakeholders in California, the John Burton Foundation has played an important role in ensuring that the extension of Federal funding to age 21 is included in this legislation. The evidence is solid and the conclusion is clear: Extending foster care services to age 21 to young adults raised in the child welfare system will support them in their effort to become healthy, independently functioning adults, and thereby honor the commitment made to them by the State and Federal governments.

Madam Speaker, I deeply appreciate the foundation's efforts and I deeply appreciate the work that my colleague, Rep. McDERMOTT, carried out in passing this legislation. Congress owes a great deal to children in foster care, and this legislation will be a very important step in that direction.

SEATBELTS FOR INCREASED BUS SAFETY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, most of us are aware of the bus accidents that have been occurring around the country. Two years ago there was a fatal bus accident involving the Westbrook High School girls' soccer team in Beaumont, Texas. Just this year, there was an accident in Sherman, Texas, which involved several Vietnamese community members. Similar incidents occurred in Liberty, Missouri, Arlington, Virginia, New York City, and New Orleans, to name a few.

These tragic bus accidents demonstrate that school bus safety reform is an urgent issue. While school buses are among the safest mode of transportation, these re-occurring accidents are unacceptable. School buses need to be safer.

The widespread bus crashes have sparked a comeback in the idea of seatbelts in buses. Seatbelts raise the issue of whether they would increase bus safety.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas safety belt use has topped 90 percent, this being the third year in a row. The majority of people in Texas are wearing their seatbelts in cars and trucks. But few to no passengers are wearing their seatbelts in school buses. Currently, there is no Federal mandate on seatbelts in buses.

Every State, except New Hampshire, requires by law that car and truck drivers and passengers wear seatbelts. This is because seatbelts work—they increase a passenger's chance of survival in a crash. In short, seatbelts save lives.

If laws require passengers of cars and trucks to wear seatbelts, why are there no requirements for buses to even include seatbelts? In many States there are variations of "Click it or Ticket" policies that threaten motorists who don't wear seatbelts, yet no such

laws apply to the buses that carry our children and community members on a daily basis.

Certainly, buses are made very different from cars and trucks. For one, buses can carry many more passengers than any car. Some of these differences might lead one to believe that there should not be a mandate on seatbelts in buses. These differences have not stopped bus drivers from being required to wear seatbelts. So why not for school bus passengers as well?

Some claim that seatbelts may not be properly worn by passengers or cause injury. If anything, it shows that seatbelts should be made better. However, to completely disregard seatbelts as a safety precaution is absurd.

The answer appears to be that of common sense. While seatbelts are in no way a quick fix and there are many questions surrounding seatbelts in buses, they should be looked into as one of the very many necessary measures taken to ensure school bus safety.

MR. JOHN DIEDERICH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and sincerity that I take this time to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished business and community leaders, Mr. John Diederich of Crown Point, Indiana. On Thursday, September 25, 2008, John will be honored by the Northwest Indiana Forum for his many years of service as a dedicated executive and his many contributions to the Northwest Indiana community. This extraordinary event will be taking place at Gamba's Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana.

John Diederich has been a fixture in the banking industry in Northwest Indiana for the past thirty-four years. Following his collegiate studies, where he earned a degree in Accounting from Calumet College of Saint Joseph in Whiting, Indiana, and a degree in Finance from Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, John entered the banking industry as a controller at Commercial Bank in Crown Point, Indiana. From there, he went on to serve as a commercial lender for Gainer Bank before being named its Division Manager for Commercial Lending in 1989. Mr. Diederich remained in this position until 1996, when he was named Manager of Private Banking and Investments for First Chicago NBD. Following a brief stint as Manager of Commercial Lending with Bank One, he was named Regional President of Bank One in 2000, and remained in that role with JPMorgan for the last eight years.

Throughout the years, John Diederich has become known just as much for his contributions to his community as to the banking industry. One of the most giving and selfless individuals I have ever had the pleasure of knowing, John has dedicated much of his time focusing on the development of the economy in Northwest Indiana, most notably as a past chairman of the Managing Board of Directors for the Northwest Indiana Forum and as a founding member and past president of the Regional Development Company. John has also volunteered much of his free time working with organizations that help children in his